

Vowel chart

This vowel chart is slightly modified from the official IPA chart as follows:

- It acknowledges that [ʌ] is often used to represent a **mid central vowel**, especially for the US English STRUT vowel.
- It uses [æ] to represent a fully **low front vowel**.
- It uses [a] to represent a **low central vowel**.
 - Some sources even use [a] for a low back vowel (for font convenience).
 - In handouts for this course, the symbol [a] will *never* be used to represent a *front* vowel — this differs from official IPA usage.
- The IPA uses ‘close’ and ‘open’ in place of ‘high’ and ‘low’. The IPA labels for the two categories of mid vowels are therefore ‘mid-close’ and ‘mid-open’.

VOWELS – slightly modified from the official IPA chart

